

What is Claimed:

1. A method to monitor database environments comprising:
providing a micro-monitor application, the micro-monitor application having a graphical user interface to display monitoring information about cooperating database environments such that the size of the micro-monitor is a small fraction of the total size of the available computing environment operating display space;
providing a communication means, the communication means used by the micro-monitor to communicate with cooperating database environments.
2. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising providing size adjustment controls for the micro-monitor application, wherein the controls perform the task of expanding the size of the micro-monitor.
3. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising providing command line controls for the micro-monitor application, wherein the command line controls allow the micro-monitor to control one or more operations of the cooperating database environments.
4. The method as recited in claim 3, further comprising providing navigation controls for the micro-monitor application that allow users to obtain detailed monitoring information.
5. The method as recited in claim 1, further comprising providing graphic alerts through micro-monitor application representative of database environment operational states.
6. The method as recited in claim 4, further comprising providing sound alerts through micro-monitor application representative of database environment operational states.
7. A computer readable medium having computer readable instructions to instruct a computer to perform the method as recited in claim 1.
8. A user interface (UI) for monitoring activities of a computing environment comprising:

a set of information representative of one or more components of the computing environment;

wherein the UI is displayable is a plurality of forms configurable to present one or more computing environment information, the UI providing control over the computing environment.

9. The UI as recited in claim 8, wherein the UI is displayable in a large form factor and a small form factor, wherein the a large form factor occupies a substantial portion of a cooperating computing environment's display area and wherein the small form factor occupies a small fraction of a computing environment's display area.

10. The UI as recited in claim 9, wherein the UI operating in the small form factor has controls to expand the UI from a small form factor to the large form factor.

11. The UI as recited in claim 10, wherein when the UI is expanded from the small form factor to the large form factor, the information populating the small form factor UI is used to populate the large form factor UI.

12. The UI as recited in claim 9, wherein the UI operating in the small form factor comprises a plurality of display areas capable of displaying monitoring information,
wherein the monitoring information comprises dynamic links which when engaged navigate to the portion of the computing environment being monitored.

13. The UI as recited in claim 12, wherein the monitoring information comprises error information about the computing environment being monitored.

14. The UI as recited in claim 13, further comprising command line controls.

15. The UI as recited in claim 14, wherein the command line controls communicates commands to the monitored computing environment to perform at least one operation on the monitored computing environment.
16. A system to monitor a computing environment comprising:
 - a micro-monitor, the micro-monitor having a small size in relation to the total available display space;
 - a communications means, the communications means used by the micro-monitor to communicate data to and from the computing environment.
17. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the micro-monitor comprises a plurality of display areas for use to display monitoring information.
18. The system as recited in claim 17, wherein the micro-monitor comprises command controls allowing the micro-monitor to perform at least one operation on the computing environment.
19. The system as recited in claim 18, wherein the micro-monitor is expandable to a larger size.
20. The system as recited in claim 16, wherein the micro-monitor generates graphical and aural notices representative of at least one error occurring in the computing environment.
21. A method to monitor a database environment using a micro-monitor comprising:
 - communicating by the micro-monitor with the database environment to obtain database environment operational information;
 - processing the received database environment operational information to generate monitoring information;
 - displaying the generated monitoring information in the micro-monitor.

22. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising controlling the database environment by the micro-monitor through communication by the micro-monitor of command statements to the computing environment.
23. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising the navigating through the monitoring information displayed in the micro-monitor through the use of micro-monitor controls.
24. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising displaying graphical notices of computing environments in the micro-monitor.
25. The method as recited in claim 21, further comprising broadcasting a aural notices representative of computing environment errors by the micro-monitor.